

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 06:39:00 1995  
From: w7ni@teleport.com (Stan Griffiths)  
Subject: "Soft" Turn on for Tek 545  
Message-ID: <199509210715.AAA25744@desiree.teleport.com>

>A few questions: Do you know of any "soft" way to bring up a 545/45  
>power supply? My method is to check ohms, pull the time delay relay,  
>hang a meter on the 100 volts, check for correct fuse, plug the thing  
>in, and flip the switch. If the 100 volt supply looks alive, I plug  
>the relay back in, hang meters on -150 and 500, and trust in the power  
>of prayer until the relay clicks in. The 545 I am working on now,  
>seems to do a "double-bang" pull-in, and I saw an arc in the front  
>6080, but all is well after it does pull in.

What we used to do in the plant when turning one on for the very first time is to use a "ballast box" which consisted of a metered Variac in a box with some ordinary light bulbs that could be switched in series with the "load" (the scope you were about to turn on for the first time). If the scope presents a dead short to the ballast box, it can only draw as much power as the series light bulb will allow. A 40 watt bulb offers a lot of protection. We also had a watt meter in the circuit so we could see how much power the scope was consuming. As you crank up the Variac, the series bulb gets brighter, and when you feel confident that everything is OK, you switch in another lightbulb in parallel with the first one allowing the scope to draw more power. Finally, you short out all of the bulbs and connect the scope directly to the power line. Our worst fear was a scope with a short somewhere in the filament circuit which could draw gobs of amps at 6.3 volts and never blow the line fuse. Such a short would show up as excessive power consumption on the watt meter if you knew what to look for. If you have a filament short and you are not using a ballast box, it takes about 5 seconds to fuse all of the wires in one of those beautiful cable harnesses into a burned mass. The first thing you hear is the popping of the cable lacing as the filament wires get red hot. (Hint: In order to hear the cable lacing popping apart, you have to be very close to the instrument. I've been there. Done that.) Then together comes the smoke and the putrid smell of burned and melted wire insulation. Finally, the scream of the responsible technician who will have to endure humiliation among his peers for the next month since they all know what happened and who did it! I can't remember the specifics of how much power which models of scope were supposed to draw under specific conditions. All I know is that you learned all of this from the more experienced technicians in the group and passed it on to the newcomers. I never saw any of this documented. I have one of these "ballast boxes" on my work bench and it is called a TU75B. Tek built a few hundred of them for internal use only and it never appeared in the catalog for sale to customers. I might be able to scrounge up a schematic diagram if I look hard enough. I would think that something like the TU75B would be standard equipment for working on BAs.

> The scopes I got all seem to have been in storage since '74,  
>and while all the electrolytics have come back up thus far, I'm not too  
>keen on just tucking full power from a Tek power supply on filters that  
>have sat uncharged for 21 years.

I don't have much trouble with filters. Mostly they leak chemicals out of their guts when they are bad. Once in a great while they go open or very low in capacity. 98% of them still seem to be good.

>Also, what is the DC level supposed to be at the vertical amp input on  
>a letter-series scope. I thought it was 100 volts with 100 mv/div  
>sensitivity, but I see a much lower voltage on the 533A. Haven't  
>measured the 545 yet---I've got troubles in this vert. amp.

DC level at 530/540 vertical amp input is about +67 volts.

Stan        W7NI@teleport.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 06:39:00 1995  
From: w7ni@teleport.com (Stan Griffiths)  
Subject: Re: 535 questions  
Message-ID: <199509211011.DAA15309@desiree.teleport.com>

>When you say "remove the CRT" before cleaning, can you do that without  
>removing the metal shield? Will those side pins clear the shield?

Yes, you can remove the CRT without removing the metal shield. The reason for removing the CRT at all is to clean it as well as the inside of the shield. In every case I've seen, the neck pins will clear the shield but it pays to proceed with care. I do not believe any of the CRT marking will wash off.

>Would it do any good to spray the transformer with clear Krylon to  
>waterproof it before washing?

I don't think it would hurt anything. The thing that is most important here is to use water that is free of ions. You can get your tap water tested and if necessary deionize it by treating it deionizing tanks. I doubt that this is really a worthwhile idea except in the case where you are going to wash a lot of instruments and get paid for it like I did years ago when I was in the business. My tap water happens to be very free of ions and I have not lost a single transformer from washing here in the last 5 years. I have probably washed 50 instruments. 535 power transformers are pretty well sealed already and all I suggest is that you avoid spraying water or soap solution directly into to transformer. If you think your water might be

bad, you might try taking the scope somewhere where the water is good and wash it there rather than trying to treat your own water. If you were closer to me, I would say bring it over and we will wash it right here and use my drying oven.

>Does the high voltage transformer absorb water?

I don't think so although some do occasionally fail. I don't know exactly why. The brown wax-like substance on high voltage transformer of the 535 vintage is real bees' wax and that stuff really seems to repel water. Later (better?) instruments like the 545B and 547 used a different material to seal the high voltage transformers and that "modern" stuff has been known to develop serious dielectric losses. The transformer heats up, usually melts the insulation on the white wires feeding filament power the the 5642 rectifiers, the filament wire then arcs to the transformer windings and you have to replace it. If you can't find a replacement from a junk instrument, at least there is a guy on the East coast who can rewind it for you for about \$50. He is listed on Page 372 of my book.

>Do you still recommend WD-40? Last I heard, it absorbed so much  
>water from the air that it could cause parts to rust.

My experiences have still been good with WD-40. I had not heard that it absorbs water and I have not experienced parts rusting as a result of using it. Maybe I should deliberately spray some parts and set them aside as an experiment to see what happens to them.

I have been told that using WD-40 as a switch cleaner is not a good idea because a lot of the components of WD-40 evaporate and it loses its effectiveness as a switch cleaner. I don't know about you, but I haven't really seen anything that works for more than a year or so before you start to get symptoms of intermittent switches again. Sometimes just rotating them a couple of times clears the intermittents again.

>You don't say "remove the tubes" but I would because many tube  
>markings are water soluble.

Yes, they are often water soluble. I am just too lazy to take them out and make sure they get back into the exact same socket they came from. I guess the way to do that would be to label each and every one of them. Not a bad program if you are dealing one or two scopes but I have over 100 of them and 200 plugins . . .

Besides, the tubes are dirty too and somehow you have to clean them. Is there a good way to do it without removing the labeling?

Stan     W7NI@teleport.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 17:33:00 1995

From: Henry van Cleef <vancleef@bga.com>

Subject: Re: 535 questions

Message-ID: <199509211618.LAA08546@zoom.bga.com>

As Stan Griffiths said

>

> >When you say "remove the CRT" before cleaning, can you do that without

> >removing the metal shield? Will those side pins clear the shield?

>

> Yes, you can remove the CRT without removing the metal shield. The reason

> for removing the CRT at all is to clean it as well as the inside of the

> shield. In every case I've seen, the neck pins will clear the shield but it

> pays to proceed with care. I do not believe any of the CRT marking will

> wash off.

The CRT pins should clear OK. As I recall, the 519 CRT was installed,

shield and all, but all the other old scopes had the CRT installed

after the shield was in place, so if those pins won't clear, I don't

know how they could have installed the CRT originally. You do have to

take care to slide the CRT over so that the pins will clear.

>

> >Do you still recommend WD-40? Last I heard, it absorbed so much

> >water from the air that it could cause parts to rust.

>

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> absorbs water and I have not experienced parts rusting as a result of using

> it. Maybe I should deliberately spray some parts and set them aside as an

> experiment to see what happens to them.

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> I have been told that using WD-40 as a switch cleaner is not a good idea

> because a lot of the components of WD-40 evaporate and it loses its

> effectiveness as a switch cleaner. I don't know about you, but I haven't

> really seen anything that works for more than a year or so before you start

> to get symptoms of intermettant switches again. Sometimes just rotating

> them a couple of times clears the intermittants again.

So far as I know, WD-40 is basically petroleum products that evaporate

after a while, leaving ????. I use Caig Deoxit D5 (comes in a spray

can) for switches and pots, and it does wonders. I did have a chance

to investigate the results of Deoxit cleaning when I rebuilt my RME-45,

because I later took the coil boxes completely apart and had the

bandswitch wafers loose for further cleaning. That set was filthy when

I got it, and I simply shot that bandswitch with Deoxit to get it

working for test. What surprised me, when I later inspected and

cleaned the bandswitch wafers, was that there was nothing more to clean

off of them except for the rosin residue on the solder tabs. I was

surprised to see what good condition the Deoxit had left these switches in.

The petroleum product I like best for cleaning up mechanical parts is plain ordinary #2 diesel fuel. That stuff melts the old petrified lubricants off something like an SX-28 dial drive mechanism quite nicely, and letting it dry for a few ways leaves it ready to relube. But for switches and pots, I'll stick with the Deoxit. The stuff is made for use on electronics, and so far as I can see, the claims that Caig makes for it are all true.

>

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\*\*\*\*\*  
Hank van Cleef vancleef@bga.com vancleef@tmn.com  
\*\*\*\*\*

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 06:39:00 1995  
From: Jodaanve@aol.com  
Subject: Boonton RX meter info needed  
Message-ID: <950921005420\_25079811@emout05.mail.aol.com>

Hi gang,

Does anyone have information on a Boonton type 250 RX meter? It appears to be a RF impedance bridge with a generator output that covers from .5 to 250 mhz. What would be some of the typical applications for this type of equipment? If someone has a copy of the operations manual or could refer me to helpful reading, it would be greatly appreciated.

Dave WB9EGZ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 17:33:00 1995  
From: Steve Ellington <n41q@iglou.com>  
Subject: BUG HAIR  
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.950921083433.12235A-100000@iglou>

An article on bug cleaning in the new Sept CQ recommends spraying the wrinkle finish base with hair spray. The author claims it gives a more natural appearance than other methods. Anyone ever try this? What about hair spray on BA rigs? I just washed my bug and can't do anything with it!

Steve

n41q@iglou.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 17:33:00 1995  
From: pbock@melpar.esys.com (Paul H. Bock)  
Subject: Re: BUG HAIR  
Message-ID: <9509211458.AA25785@syseng1.se.melpar.esys.com>

>An article on bug cleaning in the new Sept CQ recommends spraying the  
>wrinkle finish base with hair spray. The author claims it gives a more  
>natural appearance than other methods. Anyone ever try this? What about  
>hair spray on BA rigs? I just washed my bug and can't do anything with it!

Tom French, W1IMQ, writing in "The Vail Correspondent," used the K-Mart version of WD-40 to "brighten" a black wrinkle finish. I have also used this, but Mike Hanz sez it will eventually evaporate and leave the surface dull again.

Mike recommends a preparation used to protect and renew leather called "The Tannery" or "Tannery." I found two products, one spray and one a cream, by different manufacturers, at WalMart. The spray is called "Tannery," while the cream has some other brand name; however, they both look and smell the same so I suspect the chemical composition is very similar.

These products should be applied with heat; Mike recommends "out in the bright sun," but I've had good results just using a small hair dryer to heat the item first, then applying the product, then applying some more "low" heat, then setting it under a desk lamp (incandescent, of course!) for an hour or so.

My procedure is thus to thoroughly clean the item, with a good washing in very mild dishwashing liquid being the last step in cleaning, followed by a \*thorough\* rinse and then drying, first by hand and then with a hair dryer. The drying will heat the surface, preparing it for the next step which is applying the "leather product." After application, wipe off the excess and apply some more heat, then place in sunlight or under a heat source for another half-hour to hour.

Longevity of this "restoration" is still to be determined; stay tuned.

I'll post the exact names of the two products tomorrow.

73,

Paul, K4MSG

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* * * * *
* Paul H. Bock, Jr. K4MSG   Principal Systems Engineer   *
* E-Systems                Internet: pbock@melpar.esys.com *
* Falls Church, VA         Telephone: (703) 560-5000 x2062 *
*
*           If it's not Baroque, don't try to fix it;      *
*   if it is Baroque, make sure you can Handel it first.  *
* * * * *
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From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 17:33:00 1995

From: Neal McEwen <nmcewen@metronet.com>

Subject: Re: BUG HAIR

Message-ID: <199509211602.AA01677@metronet.com>

> An article on bug cleaning in the new Sept CQ recommends spraying the  
> wrinkle finish base with hair spray. The author claims it gives a more  
> natural appearance than other methods. Anyone ever try this? What about  
> hair spray on BA rigs? I just washed my bug and can't do anything with it!

I would be very reluctant to try hair spray for restoration. Hair spray has laquer (sp?) in it. I would be concerned about the laquer becoming and insulator and causing the key to not work. One would have to disassemble before using. I have used hair spray in scale model projects and it seems to turn yellow with age. The ladies only wear it one day!

I would also be cautious with WD-40. Might it attract dust and make a big mess ? Black wrinkle paint is easy buy and apply; the bug could just get a new paint job. The other finishes such as the jappaned base bugs are quite fragile; I leave these alone, save for a very careful bath. Depending on the condition, even a bath will take off some of the pin stripping. I have also experimented with waxing the base, but there again i often lose some of the pin stripping. I came to the conclusion several years ago, that collectables should look their age. So I do nothing but give them a good bath these days. Other collectors have their own equation.

--

73 de K5RW            - Neal McEwen                            - Richardson, TX (Dallas)  
\*\*\*\*\* I collect old telgraph and wireless telegraph keys \*\*\*\*\*  
HomeNet              - nmcewen@metronet.com                   - OS/2 tcp/ip SLIP  
HomePage             - [http://fohnix.metronet.com/~nmcewen/techno\\_weenies.html](http://fohnix.metronet.com/~nmcewen/techno_weenies.html)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 06:39:00 1995  
From: TOM.A.ADAMS@mail.admin.wisc.edu  
Subject: Chicago Whistlers  
Message-ID: <F9KN5845.F9KN5855@mail.admin.wisc.edu>

to: boatanchors@theporch.com

Re. question about whistler reception near Chicago:

I used to live there, and I've heard 'em on a short random wire and an old military regenerative. They most certainly CAN be heard there.

I can't say that I've ever heard Dawn Chorus tho.

73's,

Tom, K9TA

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 17:33:00 1995  
From: Stan Skelton <sskelton@cln.etc.bc.ca>  
Subject: CMOS keyer III (attn. Glowbugs)  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9509211119.A28376-01000000@sparky>

Hi all....I've had a couple of messages asking more about the CMOS keyer III and what I mean by etc.etc. also if it can be used for "toob" rigs...

Yes it can be used for "toob" rigs if negative voltage switching capability is added!...I gather this means a relay, reed or otherwise to handle the current (someone wiser than I can correct me on this)...

Part of the etc. etc. that I was referring to was the ability of the keyer to use embedded codes in the recorded messages to allow pauses, closed loops, calling one message from within another, contest serial numbers (with automatic increments/decrements), speed changes inside the message and more.....

It sounds impressive, now if I can just get it all to fit inside the case I chose, maybe I can try it out!

73's Stan...VE7SKT



From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 17:33:00 1995  
From: "Ferranti Rick" <ferranti\_rick@mac-mailserver.atc.ll.mit.edu>  
Subject: COLLINS for sale/trade  
Message-ID: <n1400443946.68107@mac-mailserver.atc.ll.mit.edu>

COLLINS for sale/trade

Collins 618F-1A miniature VHF aircraft transceiver. Compact crystal-synthesized AM transceiver covering 118.000 to 135.950 MHz in 50 kHz steps using two tuning knobs driving a detented mechanical digital readout. Only 5-3/4" wide, 3-3/4" high, and 9" deep, weighing 5.6 lbs, the rig contains 9 tubes: 1 - 7551 final, 4 - 6AK5's, 2 - 5670's, 1 - 6688 and 1 - 5686. Front panel has winged Collins emblem, volume and squelch controls, on-off switch, the two tuning knobs, and the sidelit readout. Intended to be used with the i-f/audio/power supply unit 427D-1, not available. Nice condition with all tubes, shields, and crystals in place, but no top and bottom covers. BNC antenna jack. The 618F-1A is a magnificent example of early 60's avionics miniaturization -- the tuning system drives a beautiful miniature 7 section variable capacitor, a 20-crystal switch deck, and a 4 slug PTO rack! Has possibilities as a tunable VHF aircraft converter, or just as a very classy collectable for the avionics enthusiast. No schematic, but with hookup sheet from manual. \$47.00 shipped in the continental U.S., or trade for a grungy old telegraph key.

Collins mechanical filter, model F 455 J 05, the 455 kHz 500 Hz CW filter that plugs into the 75A-4 and possibly other Collins equipment. Cylindrical unit with 9-pin tube base; looks new. Other markings are 7 V 2 and 526 9154 00. Tested and working fine in a 75A-4. \$83.00 shipped in the continental U.S., or trade for a nice old telegraph key.

Email replies to: Rick Ferranti WA6NCX at <<remler@ll.mit.edu>> Please, no phone calls.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 06:39:00 1995  
From: MEC <danmec@inet.uni-c.dk>  
Subject: Collins Mech. filter FS  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9509210756.A16178-0100000@inet.uni-c.dk>

I have a F 500 B 14 surplus to requirments.

Need 125 dollars incl shipping.

73 Rag OZ8R0

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 06:39:00 1995  
From: jproc@worldlinx.com  
Subject: Re: crystal sizes  
Message-ID: <Chameleon.4.01.2.950920234629.jproc@>

>Or was it just that the SCR-522 was a British design

Jim,

This is the second time that I have heard this and I would like to zero in on the truth.

My SCR-522 manual indicates that the device was affixed with both Army Air Corps and British Air Ministry nameplates but this doesn't prove who designed it. It only means that the set was supplied to the two services. A British set, called the 86M is absolutely identical to the SCR-522 and an excerpt from the 86M manual indicates that it was an American design. When I challenged the last person with this info, he could not prove his source of information.

Do you, or does anyone in the group have any hard copy which actually states that the SCR522 was a British design?

Regards,

-----  
Jerry Proc VE3FAB  
E-mail: jproc@worldlinx.com  
Radio Restoration Volunteer  
HMCS Haida, Toronto Ontario  
-----

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 06:39:00 1995  
From: "Robert M. Bratcher Jr." <bratcher@krypton.netropolis.net>  
Subject: Erect-tronic set wanted!  
Message-ID: <199509202200.WAA03909@krypton.netropolis.net>

I'm not sure who made this or when it was marketed. I found an Erect-tronic set in the middle 70's as a teen. Had a wood board with a lot of holes in it. All the parts were mounted on plastic bases with mounting pins that fit in the wood and also had metal pins sticking up. Parts were old style (40's?) with 2 tubes in sockets. Connecting wire has U shaped metal ends that fits over the metal pins. Manual shows how to build several kind of radio's. I remember building a Regen set as well as a Grid Leak detector radio possibly a transmitter. This set had 2 coils, one for the broadcast band the other for shortwave. Came with a nice outer box too. My parents tossed this out along with most of my other radio stuff that I didn't take to a boarding school when they moved into a new house. Thank God I took my ham gear with me otherwise I might not have my 75A-2 and ART-13 today! Does someone know who made this and when? Does anyone have a complete set to part with? I would like to have this in my collection!

Robert M. Bratcher Jr.  
E-mail to:  
bratcher@netropolis.net  
Beam me up Scotty!

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 06:39:00 1995  
From: "Robert M. Bratcher Jr." <bratcher@krypton.netropolis.net>  
Subject: Re: Erect-tronic set wanted!  
Message-ID: <199509210320.DAA07702@krypton.netropolis.net>

At 09:33 PM 9/20/95 -0700, you wrote:

>Hi Robert..

>

>I had one of those when I was a kid. As I remember, mine had paper overlays  
>that fit over the perforated board. They showed where to position the parts  
>and where to connect the wires. There were several receivers and an AM  
>transmitter and other stuff. Used a 1.5v battery for the filament and a 45v  
>(or was it 90?) for the B+. I think it was around 1959 or 1960 when I got  
>mine, probably for Christmas. I have no idea what happened to it.

>

>I know about parents getting rid of things, tho. My mother gave my Scout  
>uniform to the Salvation Army (Goodwill, maybe? Whatever...) while I was  
>away at school. It included the sash with all my merit badges. Oh well...

>

>Good luck finding the Erec-tronis set...

>

>Mark

>

Thanks, I'll need the luck. My set might have had the paper overlays. Found mine at a garage sale. Wished I still had it. Would like to play with one

again. Yes I remember the small tubes. Don't remember what type (like 1T4) they were. I had a D cell in a battery holder for filament power and used two 9 volt shaped 22.5 volt batteries in series for B+. That set was a lot of fun for me in the middle 70's!

Robert M. Bratcher Jr.  
E-mail to:  
bratcher@netropolis.net  
Beam me up Scotty!

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 06:39:00 1995  
From: "Robert M. Bratcher Jr." <bratcher@krypton.netropolis.net>  
Subject: Re: Erect-tronic set wanted!  
Message-ID: <199509210320.DAA07705@krypton.netropolis.net>

At 11:52 PM 9/20/95 -0500, you wrote:

>As Robert M. Bratcher Jr. said

>>

>> I'm not sure who made this or when it was marketed. I found an Erect-tronic  
>> set in the middle 70's as a teen.

>> Does

>> someone know who made this and when? Does anyone have a complete set to part  
>> with? I would like to have this in my collection!

>>

>Personal history strikes out again. The "Erectronic" sets were made by  
>General Engineering Labs of Cambridge, Mass., and sold by A.C. Gilbert  
>in New Haven. They were originally sold, ca. 1955, by GEL as "Jiffy  
>Kit" toys. GEL agreed to supply Gilbert with components and sample  
>circuits in 1959, and Gilbert used the "Erector Set" name as  
>"Erec-Tronic" when marketing them. The sets used a patented "Jiffy  
>Clip" on the interconnecting wires. This was a U-shaped phosphor  
>bronze clip that went on a "pin 1" fat pin from 4-5-6-7 pin tube  
>sockets. The components were mounted on yellow styrene carriers with  
>pins for the Jiffy Clips at each end (for a 2-lead passive) or as  
>needed, for things like tube sockets. They were assembled at 275 Mass.  
>Ave. in Cambridge, the old GR plant, which GEL took over when GR went  
>out to Concord.

>

>I worked for GEL from 1958-60, and remember the Jiffy Kits well. We  
>used them for prototyping---they weren't just toys. The "Jiffy Clip"s  
>were always in short supply, and anyone coming in to work at odd hours  
>was supposed to start up the Jiffy Clip machine and get some punched  
>out. This was a simple punch press that had a fancy die set in it. To  
>put it in "production" mode, you loaded a spool of wire on a spindle,  
>shoved it in as far as the grip on the dieset, stepped on the pedal,  
>and when Jiffy Clips were spitting out the other end of the dieset,

>just shoved a 2X4 piece about 3 feet long between a boss on the punch  
>press and the pedal, and went on about your work. Of such stuff are  
>the sagas of "high tech" made.  
>  
>Gilbert went out of business in 1967, and GEL became a part of Sippican  
>Corp about the same time, and I imagine that was the end of  
>"Electronic" sets, if not the Jiffy Clips too.  
>  
>--  
>\*\*\*\*\*  
>Hank van Cleef vancleef@bga.com vancleef@tmn.com  
>\*\*\*\*\*  
>  
Yes as I remember from the set I found in the 70's the plastic was yellow.  
That thing was a LOT of fun to play with in my teens! Wish I could find  
another complete set!

Robert M. Bratcher Jr.  
E-mail to:  
bratcher@netropolis.net  
Beam me up Scotty!

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 17:33:00 1995  
From: Michael.J.Knudsen@att.com  
Subject: Re: Erect-tronic set wanted!  
Message-ID: <9509211607.AA04827@bock.ih.att.com>

I had a regular Electronics set that my folkks gave me for my 11th or 12th B-day.  
Yes it used a 1T4 mini battery pentode. Mine used a 45 or maybe 67.5V B-battery  
and the D-cell holder with the built-on switch.

It had a BC band coil and a SW coil, plug a tickler coil that you slid into  
the top of either coil for regen. Since that didn't give you much control  
over the coupling, most of the RX setups used a pot in the screen voltage.

I remember getting local BC stations but don't recall whether I got much on SW.  
THis was before the Religious Right was making the ionosphere glow at nite :-)

Anyway I really enjoyed that set and got a lot of use out of it, and was  
still using parts of it thru high school. That D cell holder ...  
gotta go to lunch, finish later. --mike k w9nrd

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 06:39:00 1995  
From: n5off@w5ddl.aara.org  
Subject: Fair R-390 Facts. Etc

Message-ID: <183333@w5ddl.aara.org>

Just in case there was not enough confusion on this, here is a bit more:

The Fair ad in QST states R-390's for sale, but the picture is a 390A.

390's were made only by Collins and Motorola, so there won't be any fly by night rigs in this group if they are in fact 390's.

390A's were made in quantities from 5 units up to 10,000 unit batches by a flurry of makers, the last bunch in 1984.

See my 2nd list for the 390A users survey.

bonne chance  
de tom n5off

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 06:39:00 1995  
From: "Robert M. Bratcher Jr." <bratcher@krypton.netropolis.net>  
Subject: Fair radio "Raping" R390a's  
Message-ID: <199509202200.WAA03872@krypton.netropolis.net>

> IMHO By "Ready" they mean removed from transit container, Raped of  
>the tools manuals and working spares, evaluated for shipping damage  
>and functionality.  
I don't need a manual (have one already). Does Fair Radio sell the tools,  
manuals and working spares (tubes as a full set) saperately? For what price?  
Where does one get the tools to repair a R390a?

Robert M. Bratcher Jr.  
E-mail to:  
bratcher@netropolis.net  
Beam me up Scotty!

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 06:39:00 1995  
From: bill@texan.frco.com (William Hawkins)  
Subject: Re: Fair Radio R390X Series Radios  
Message-ID: <9509210547.AA03438@texan.frco.com>

Jack Taylor has the right answer, so I stand corrected. Not that being corrected is any big deal - we all make mistakes, especially without manuals in front of us. Making corrections keeps this group from falling into the shared ignorance that you find in Usenet groups.

It occurs to me that Greg Raven could have thought I was picking on

him because I specifically attributed that passage to him. That kind of attribution isn't common in this group. Maybe it's a better deal to state a correction, to get the facts straight, without calling attention to the person you are correcting. I'll try to do that in the future, but shoot, I can't tell 'r' from 'R' for 'reply'.

The R390 schematic shows that they didn't just add resistive load to the IF transformers in the 2, 4, 8, and 16 KHz bandwidths, they used four separate additional windings coupled to the secondary through various resistors.

On the other hand, with replacement mechanical filter prices headed out of sight (\$250 in one ad), I could learn how to add windings sooner than I could build a mechanical filter.

Bill Hawkins bill@bvc.frco.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 17:33:00 1995  
From: pbock@melpar.esys.com (Paul H. Bock)  
Subject: FOR TRADE: Mint U.S. Navy Flameproof Key  
Message-ID: <9509211546.AA26875@syseng1.se.melpar.esys.com>

FOR TRADE: U.S. Navy Flameproof key Type CTE 26003-A, \*MINT\* condition, manufactured by Telephonics, Inc.

Will trade for:

1950's silver-colored J-38 key. These keys were 100% silver-colored (cad-plated?) with a standard open-bottom key frame (not solid-bottom like the Lionel J-38). Must be 100% complete including black base, engraved and white-filled lettering, binding posts and connecting strip, eyelet, circuit closer, original knobs. VGC or better \*only\*!

Also interested in:

1. 1960's U.S. Navy gray-case, black lever shipboard LOP (Local Operator Position) telegraph key in \*MINT\* condition.
2. Lionel J-38 key in \*MINT\* condition.

E-mail to pbock@melpar.esys.com

Paul, K4MSG

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 17:33:00 1995  
From: KE8NEfix@aol.com  
Subject: FS. Code Oscillators  
Message-ID: <950921083409\_104965493@mail06.mail.aol.com>

Hi gang,

For you who are into cw or need practice equipment for a group and don't want tapes or the computer here are two items that you will find useful

1 Ameco CPS code oscillator. Volume and Tone controls the 5" speaker in the box. Also has a headphone jack. It uses a 50C5 and 35W4 and I have recapped the unit so it works well and sounds good. \$22.00 Shipped to your door.

2. Heath HD1416. Theis little Box used a nine volt battery to drive the oscillator circuit. It has volume control on the front and tone control in the rear. Has a small speaker and will drigve headphones from the jack. \$18.00 shipped to your door.

I'm glad to see the interest in the code hasn't died because of the no code license. More power you who are studying the code and making use of it on the band. E-mail me here if yyour interested in either of these pieces or call me at 616-677-3706. If I'm not home leave a message.

Thanx,

KIM

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 17:33:00 1995  
From: Jodaanve@aol.com  
Subject: FS: SP600 as is or parts?  
Message-ID: <950921101354\_105046394@emout04.mail.aol.com>

I have a SP600 in rough condition, mostly dirt with some rust on the hardware. The front panel isn't too bad and everything appears to be all there, except for the xtal selector switch which was removed. I've decided that it is a bigger restoration project than I am willing to take on, so if anyone else is interested they can have it for \$75. Pickup would be preferred, S. WI, or I can have it brought to the Grayslake, IL fest on Saturday.

I have received some requests for parts, but would rather see it go to someone who can bring it back to operating condition. e-mail directly to Jodaanve@AOL.com



73,

Dave WB9EGZ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 17:33:00 1995  
From: Jodaanve@aol.com  
Subject: FS:General Radio Freq Meter  
Message-ID: <950921101811\_105046416@emout06.mail.aol.com>

gang,

I have a non BA friend that has a General Radio frequency meter type 720A sitting in his attic, for which he has no use. It's a splendid example of precision machining and is in excellent condition. If I recall there was a thread recently regarding some of the applications for these. He would like to get \$50 OBO. Please respond to Jodaanve@AOL.com and I will put you in direct contact.

73,

Dave WB9EGZ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 17:33:00 1995  
From: Damon Z Cassell <dcassell@lynx.dac.neu.edu>  
Subject: Re: FT-243 / HC-6/U crystals wanted, Novice freqs  
Message-ID: <199509211649.MAA09416@lynx.dac.neu.edu>

> Yes, Jan charges \$25 for crystals in an FT-243 can, but they also sell  
> HC-17 crystals, which are simply a different style can, but same pin  
> spacing, for \$11. The HC-17 will work fine in place of an FT-243.  
> The only difference is that the HC-17 is a slightly smaller, sealed  
> enclosure whereas the FT-243 can be readily opened up.  
>  
> Thanks for that tip, Damon. I'm going to ask this question  
> echoed to the List, so here goes: the real important thing here is,  
> are the pin diameters compatible? If that's the case then I  
> think we have a winner here.  
>  
> --Andy  
> wallace@mc.com

Yep, pin diameters are the same. I have used HC-17 crystals in place of FT-243's in my Viking II, DX-60, and Ranger and they work great. If your crystal socket will fit an FT-243, it'll fit an HC-17.

Damon Cassell, WU1T  
dcassell@lynx.dac.neu.edu

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 06:39:00 1995  
From: TOM.A.ADAMS@mail.admin.wisc.edu  
Subject: Grayslake BA frequency  
Message-ID: <F9KN4800.F9KN4811@mail.admin.wisc.edu>

to: boatanchors@theporch.com

Greetings, Troops.

To paraphrase somebody or other,

I know not what course others may take, but K9TA will be on 146.15 simplex.

73's,

Tom, K9TA

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 06:39:00 1995  
From: w7ni@teleport.com (Stan Griffiths)  
Subject: Handles  
Message-ID: <199509210715.AAA25726@desiree.teleport.com>

>Okay, thanks for the advice. I'll be taking good care of this one. You  
>don't have any of those original leather handles do you?

>

No, but I've got a very good substitute.

In my quest to restore slightly later Tek scopes, I found that the blue handles with white stitching were often coming apart and the mounting hardware was rusty. I found the original company that Tek bought these from (PHC Industries) and asked if they could make a few for me. They said, "yes, minimum order 100 pieces, and thanks, we were wondering what we were ever going to do with that odd color blue vinyl material." I ordered 100 and told them to keep the rest of the material because I might be back again. I later ordered a second 100 and asked if they could make the earlier black leather handles. They said no but sent me a sample of a very

similar looking handle in black leather which was a stock item. The mounting scheme is slightly different and requires that you drill some holes and mount the hardware with small (#6) bolts and nuts. You supply the bolts and nuts and some washers to spread the load out over a larger area of the aluminum cabinet. Alternatively, you can use the original mounting hardware with the bent tabs inside and underneath the top of the cabinet providing, (a) it still looks good enough and, (b) you think it is still strong enough after having been bent three times (on, off, on). I am a little bit nervous about metal fatigue after that much bending. Well, minimum order for the black handles was also 100 so I got 100 of those, too. They never would tell me where I could get any of their catalog items in quantities of one or two. I asked a couple of times and the question was always ignored. Of course, the blue handles were special order and I am sure I am now the sole source for those except for a rare piece of NOS.

The bottom line: All handles are \$7.50 each including new mounting hardware. I will need \$5.00 more for postage and packaging.

You will need two for most scopes. One for some.

Your check is ok to:

Stan Griffiths  
18955 S.W. Blanton  
Aloha, OR 97007

Sorry, I don't take VISA or Mastercard since I am not a business!

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 06:39:00 1995  
From: "Robert M. Bratcher Jr." <bratcher@krypton.netropolis.net>  
Subject: Just a question...  
Message-ID: <199509202200.WAA03937@krypton.netropolis.net>

I am not in the military (nor have I ever been) but I have a question. Suppose a soldier (any rank) requisitioned a R390a today for use in a "radio shack" whether for part of his job or off duty listening. Would he receive one as per his request? or be laughed at or maybe chewed out? Just wanted to know.

Robert M. Bratcher Jr.  
E-mail to:  
bratcher@netropolis.net  
Beam me up Scotty!

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 06:39:00 1995  
From: paul Veltman <veltman@netcom.com>  
Subject: Re: Just a question...  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9509202112.A21378-0100000@netcom23>

> I am not in the military (nor have I ever been) but I have a question.  
> Suppose a soldier (any rank) requisitioned a R390a today for use in a "radio  
> shack" whether for part of his job or off duty listening. Would he receive  
> one as per his request? or be laughed at or maybe chewed out? Just wanted to  
> know.

There are several ways the dutiful dogface can handle this one.

First, all federal stuff has a FSN or Federal Stock Number. If a FSN for the R390a exists, then it's in the system, and if there is any stock, then he'll get it. Now, this route involves a 'exchange of funds', so the supply remfs will see it and probably chew out the soldier for wasting their precious money that could be better spent on more ammunition or decorating the COs office.

The second route is through salvage. Our thrifty dogface gets a surplus access pass and runs down to his favorite supply depot and shops in the surplus store. He picks the rig up (probably WITHOUT exchange of funds) and trots on home with it. In this day and age, there probably isn't even a FSN for the R-390, so the salvage route is his best bet.

Oh, and then there's the third route. Find one someplace and steal it.  
;-) Not hard to do from USMC facilities.

73

Paul WA6OKQ

PS - Hey guys, I'm just kidding! Don't y'all get out your red flags and start chanting 'Semper Fi' all the way down to my QTH now. :-)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 06:39:00 1995  
From: Jeffrey Herman <jeffrey@math.hawaii.edu>  
Subject: Re: Just a question...  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950920203745.21598A-1000000@kahuna>

On Wed, 20 Sep 1995, Robert M. Bratcher Jr. wrote:

> I am not in the military (nor have I ever been) but I have a question.  
> Suppose a soldier (any rank) requisitioned a R390a today for use in a "radio  
> shack" whether for part of his job or off duty listening. Would he receive  
> one as per his request? or be laughed at or maybe chewed out? Just wanted to

> know.

Any request such as this has to go through a chain-of-command; many signatures would be required going up this chain. His immediate supervisor, whose signature would be the very first appended on the request, would surely ask some very thorough questions as to the necessity for such a purchase. If the supervisor approves such a request, then it would probably be clear sailing up the rest of the chain.

Keep in mind that in the military, ``Sh\*\* runs downhill'', meaning the supervisor will watch out for his neck very carefully, for he'll be found responsible if one of his men screws up (such as submitting a phoney request, or equipment vanishing).

Jeff NH6IL (US Coast Guard 1975-82) (Semper Paratus!) (ZUT!)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 06:39:00 1995  
From: "Robert M. Bratcher Jr." <bratcher@krypton.netropolis.net>  
Subject: Re: Just a question...  
Message-ID: <199509210320.DAA07708@krypton.netropolis.net>

At 10:03 PM 9/20/95 -0700, you wrote:

>

>> I am not in the military (nor have I ever been) but I have a question.  
>> Suppose a soldier (any rank) requisitioned a R390a today for use in a "radio shack" whether for part of his job or off duty listening. Would he receive one as per his request? or be laughed at or maybe chewed out? Just wanted to >> know.

>

>There are several ways the dutiful dogface can handle this one.

>

>First, all federal stuff has a FSN or Federal Stock Number. If a FSN for the R390a exists, then it's in the system, and if there is any stock, then he'll get it. Now, this route involves a 'exchange of funds', so the supply remfs will see it and probably chew out the soldier for wasting their precious money that could be better spent on more ammunition or decorating the CO's office.

>

You mean the supply people wouldn't like a soldier wanting a great Classic radio? If I was in the military I'd ask for one! Never knew there is an "exchange of funds" in the military. Learn something new every day.

>The second route is through salvage. Our thrifty dogface gets a surplus access pass and runs down to his favorite supply depot and shops in the surplus store. He picks the rig up (probably WITHOUT exchange of funds) and trots on home with it. In this day and age, there probably isn't even a FSN for the R-390, so the salvage route is his best bet.

>  
I'm sure he would have to pay for it. Think of what Fair Radio charges!

>Oh, and then there's the third route. Find one someplace and steal it.  
>;-) Not hard to do from USMC facilities.  
>  
>73  
>  
>Paul WA6OKQ  
>  
You mean the military gets ripped off by there OWN guys too? I wouldnt want to risk prison over it!

Robert M. Bratcher Jr.  
E-mail to:  
bratcher@netropolis.net  
Beam me up Scotty!

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 06:39:00 1995  
From: "Robert M. Bratcher Jr." <bratcher@krypton.netropolis.net>  
Subject: Re: Just a question...  
Message-ID: <199509210320.DAA07711@krypton.netropolis.net>

At 08:49 PM 9/20/95 -1000, you wrote:  
>On Wed, 20 Sep 1995, Robert M. Bratcher Jr. wrote:  
>> I am not in the military (nor have I ever been) but I have a question.  
>> Suppose a soldier (any rank) requisitioned a R390a today for use in a "radio  
>> shack" whether for part of his job or off duty listening. Would he recieve  
>> one as per his request? or be laughed at or maybe chewed out? Just wanted to  
>> know.  
>  
>Any request such as this has to go through a chain-of-command; many  
>signatures would be required going up this chain. His immediate supervisor,  
>whose signature would be the very first appended on the request,would  
>surely ask some very thorough questions as to the necessity for such  
>a purchase. If the supervisor approves such a request, then it would  
>probably be clear sailing up the rest of the chain.  
>  
>Keep in mind that in the military, ``Sh\*\* runs downhill'', meaning  
>the supervisor will watch out for his neck very carefully, for he'll  
>be found responsible if one of his men screws up (such as submitting  
>a phoney request, or equipment vanishing).  
>  
>Jeff NH6IL (US Coast Guard 1975-82) (Semper Paratus!) (ZUT!)  
>  
Hmmm... Didn't know that! Purchase? No idea that would be part of it.

Thought it would just be sent if available. Oh well. Just shows I know zilch about the military!

Jeff, That E-mail address for the "Glowbugs" list bounces from my provider. I wanted to subscribe to a TUBE QRP list. Whats the sub address & info on the QRP digest (not glowbugs). I think it's qrp\_1 or something but don't remember. Help?

Robert M. Bratcher Jr.  
E-mail to:  
bratcher@netropolis.net  
Beam me up Scotty!

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 17:33:00 1995  
From: dsnowden@ccd.harris.com (Doug Snowden)  
Subject: JW Miller Coils  
Message-ID: <9509211657.AA360854@rs2.ccd.harris.com>

I posted this on usenet, but: Anybody know where I can get JW Miller parts? Is there someone with a stock? I need slug tuned inductors for a project I want to start.

Doug N4IJ dsnowden@ccd.harris.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 17:33:00 1995  
From: johnmb <johnmb@nando.net>  
Subject: Re: JW Miller Coils  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950921142304.14897A-1000000@parsifal.nando.net>

I have their catalog in my hands: Call 310 515 1720 and I am sure they can point you to the nearest distributor

73/john wb5oauR=  
>

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 17:33:00 1995  
From: Grant Youngman <gyoungma@gtetel.com>  
Subject: Neutralizing Globe King ??  
Message-ID: <Chameleon.950921053917.gyoungma@gyoungma.gtetel.com>

Mornin', Group ...

I may have asked this question here before, but haven't thought on the subject for a while and only have 1K of RAM ahead of the bit bucket...

I have a Globe King 500C which is very ill behaved on 20M and above. I think it has the symptoms of needing to be neutralized ... grid current drops to zilch and/or swings wildly when tuning the final through resonance, REALLY touchy, low output, etc. On 40M and below its behavior is textbook good.

Am I thinking in the right direction? Or could this just be a (some) bad bypass caps or a bad 4-400A?

Is this a common Globe King problem? Has anyone ever tried adding neutralization one of these, and if so, what did you do? The as is transmitter has no neutralization adjustments. I've looked around in the past for one of those large neutralizing caps like a Johnson Type-N or Millen 15011, but have never come across one in a boneyard -- but then there's not much room on the RF deck, anyway.

Regards .. Grant/NQ5T

-----  
Grant Youngman -- NQ5T

Once upon a time (and maybe again): K5VCM  
and for a while W0JXE, KH6HHC, WB4BBD

gyoungma@gtetel.com  
-----

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 17:33:00 1995  
From: Terry Neal <tmneal@netcom.com>  
Subject: Re: Neutralizing Globe King ??  
Message-ID: <199509211646.JAA29790@netcom13.netcom.com>

>I have a Globe King 500C which is very ill behaved on 20M and above. I think  
>it has the symptoms of needing to be neutralized ... grid current drops to  
>zilch and/or swings wildly when tuning the final through resonance, REALLY  
>touchy, low output, etc. On 40M and below its behavior is textbook good.

Just a guess but I had sytoms a bit like yours on a Johnson Valiant. It turned out to be a 100hz low freq parasitic oscillation. Some scope work found it out in quick order. The first resister I found was 150 ohms, put it in and Zot! it was fixed.



See any old hand book or page 161 of 1963 handbook.

cul tn (aa6tn)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 17:33:00 1995  
From: Allen Jones <ajones@niiia.net>  
Subject: Odds 'n Ends  
Message-ID: <199509211354.IAA18477@silver.niiia.net>

The following small items have been unearthed. If you are interested make an offer with your reply.

2 - Millen 10012 right angle drives

4 - Large National knobs with 3.5" metal skirts graduated 0-100 over 180 degrees. Body of knob itself is black and approx 2.25", fluted and similar in appearance to Millen 10008. These came off a 30's or 40's era National transmitter I believe.

1 - Black National knob w/chrome insert about 2.125". Looks like the main tuning knob from National receivers but weren't they grey? This came from a pinch drive dial assembly. I still have the dial scale but the pinch drive itself has been lost.

All in good shape. Should clean up nicely.

73 de Allen, K9DZE

=====  
Allen Jones K9DZE ajones@niiia.net  
Michigan City, Indiana EN61nq  
ARCI #8797 G-QRP #8812 NorCal #1061  
SWOT #1368 SMIRK #5403  
=====

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 17:33:00 1995  
From: michael.moore@24stex.com  
Subject: Petersen Radio  
Message-ID: <9509211027.0E0VR01@24stex.com>

O.K. I knew if I shoveled, i mean looked, deep enough I would find it.

Petersen Radio, 2735 Avenue 'A', Council Bluffs, Iowa 51501

712-323-7539.

Amateur xtals \$8.00 and in Z-17 (HC-17/U) \$8.50. (+postage)

I remember buying Petersen xtals in the fifties. Orange label and only a couple of bucks.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 17:33:00 1995

From: jproc@worldlinx.com

Subject: Philmore Company

Message-ID: <Chameleon.4.01.2.950921111644.jproc@>

Many thanks to all those who who provided information about the Philmore Company.

-----  
Jerry Proc, VE3FAB  
Radio Restoration Volunteer  
HMCS Haida  
E-mail: jproc@worldlinx.com  
Toronto, Ontario  
-----

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 06:39:00 1995

From: Michael.J.Knudsen@att.com

Subject: Re: PHILMORE NOVICE TRANSM

Message-ID: <9509201639.AA04430@bock.ih.att.com>

I had one of their xtal radio kits around '54 or '55.  
Probably US made -- neat little Bakelite box with a slider over an inductor wound on a wooden core. And a real oil-rig cats-whisker, and Philmore brand headphones.

I associated them with the Boy Scouts, who own the Philmore Ranch, but I doubt there was any connection.

I think Philmore has a cheap little imported 5-tuber in Moore's book; shuda stuck to xtals :- ) 73, mike k w9nrd

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 17:33:00 1995

From: shaun.merrigan@freddy.com (SHAUN MERRIGAN)

Subject: R-390/Mil contractors

Message-ID: <8B17531.0004023936.uuout@freddy.com>

On 09/20/95, TERRY O'LAUGHLIN spoke about R-390/Mil contractors; I say:

T0>Anyone who has uncorked a few R-390A PTOs knows that the manufacturer  
T0>is important. I can't remember if it was Cosmos or Progresitron, but  
T0>I recall seeing some cheesy PTOs out there.

T0>73        Terry O'        WB9GVB

I have opened up Cosmos Industries PTO's that did NOT, repeat did NOT have any type of compensation stack. I suppose they must have linearized the units by adjusting the spacing of the wires on the coil form (the coil windings are on the outside of the coil form on the Cosmos PTO's that I have seen, perhaps this is why) Either that, or they found components which were perfectly matched (!!). Also, the "bearing" that holds the far end of the leadscrew is just a riveted on bushing, as opposed to a true roller bearing I have seen in other units. The only Cosmos PTO I have now does not appear to have any endpoint adjustment slug accessible from the outside. There is an adjustment, but it is only accessible from a hole thru the rear support plate; I don't recall if there was a way to adjust the endpoints on these....

I have had trouble with Motorola PTOs: I have got one that is unstable (it will jump up or down 3 or 4 khz for no reason; surgery is needed). This particular PTO was totally corroded (perhaps shipboard use??) when I got it. The seals had broken, and the aluminum parts had severe corrosion. I mechanically rebuilt it just for the heck of it. It works, but has the stability problem, and needs to have the compensation stack aligned. I have another that has a bad Z-702 (internal short, I think, just needs to be replaced).

I have had pretty good luck with Collins PTO's; there is one in my "everyday" R390A which is working fine.

Gee, maybe I could get these two Motorola units working. Anyone have a scrapper PTO or two kicking around??? :)

Shaun

Shaun P. Merrigan  
merrigan@nyquist.ee.ualberta.ca  
shaun.merrigan@freddy.com  
3rd Year EE University of Alberta

, CMPQwk 1.42 856 ,I'd rather have a bottle in front of me than a frontal

lobotomy.- Groucho Marx

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 17:33:00 1995  
From: "S. Miller" <smiller@motown.ge.com>  
Subject: Re: R-390/Mil contractors  
Message-ID: <199509211557.LAA04599@bear.MOTOWN.GE.COM>

This is getting interesting. I have several COSMOS PT0's and from the looks of it the latest one probably has some differences from the early ones at least that's what the travel tag from the rebuilder (Tobyhana Army Depot) . I ahve not hadmuch success in getting the early ones open all the way, what's the trick. Secondly, my R390A has a PT0 bult by some company here in Burlington NJ and other that the fact that for real accuracy I have to cal at the closest 100 Khz point to the freq I am interested in it works ok. I thought I had read in ER that COSMOS had used a trim screw arrangement that changed the padding capacitance in order to linearize the PT0. I'd would think it might be a very beneficial to compare notes on these PT0's. Steve Kd2ED

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 06:39:00 1995  
From: n5off@w5ddl.aara.org  
Subject: R-390A Users, Data Wanted  
Message-ID: <183344@w5ddl.aara.org>

Watch for an upcoming article in Electric Radio which will update the R-390A production saga. There are still some holes in the data though, so we'd like additional manufacturer, order number, and s.n. data.

See the invite below.

=====

Reply to: n5off%w5ddl.aara.org@usl.edu

To get a copy of the subject list, send a message to:

listproc@theporch.com

leave the subject line blank

in the body of the message type

get boatanchors r390a.users

Thanks to all who have contributed R-390A info. We have data on over 120 rigs from 16 contracts. The lowest serial number seen was 2, and the highest in a given contract was over 6000. Contributions include those from Dittmore-Freimuth and Fowler Industries contracts, as well as an EAC Industries consumer products run.

As I mentioned in earlier posts, I am compiling a survey of R-390A's owned by people who frequent the packet and Internet boards. The object of the game is to try and ascertain how many contracts were let for manufacture, and how many were made.

If you wish to participate in the census and you own one or more R-390A's (or spy them on ships, hamfests, or just anywhere), please go take a peek at it (them) and then reply to me with this information:

- 1) maker (EAC, Motorola, etc)
- 2) order number (63-PH-54 for ex) from the front tag
- 3) serial number off of the front tag
- 4) any unusual features (tags, stamps, frequency shield, etc)

The list includes an accounting of the contributors, however, the names are not matched with the rigs. If contributors have a desire to sell their rigs, I'm sure they will speak up, so you shouldn't expect any cards or letters from making a data contribution to the list.

Thanks,

de tom n5off%w5ddl.aara.org@usl.edu      Internet  
n5off@k5arh.la.usa      packet

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 17:33:00 1995  
From: Andy Wallace <wallace@mc.com>  
Subject: R-392 knob pointers -- hot?  
Message-ID: <9509211041.AA03542@kali>

I keep hearing a fellow on a local swap net announce that he has a "glow in the dark R-392" for sale, and he is not referring to the 26V tubes inside. He claims that the knob pointers on his 392 are luminescent.

I tried shining a bright light on my 392, and then turning the light out. My knobs don't shine.

Cleaning and polishing the front panel and knobs is something I would like to do eventually, but I don't want to do that if the knobs are from the same family tree as the R-390A

meters.

And for that matter, I was thinking about buying a replacement meter for the mongrel one in my 392. Someone in Electric Radio is selling them for \$35. Would these be radioactive, too?

--Andy  
wallace@mc.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 06:39:00 1995  
From: haynes@cats.ucsc.edu (Jim Haynes)  
Subject: Repairing Tubes  
Message-ID: <199509210459.VAA10696@hobbes.UCSC.EDU>

There was an item in the business section of today's local paper about a company which has been hereabouts for 46 years, California Tube Laboratory. What it says about their business is that "originally operations focused on the repair of radio transmitter vacuum tubes. In the 1970's they expanded by repairing industrial heating magnetrons, industrial-sized microwave ovens. Other Cal Tube products include klystrons, for UHF television transmission; triodes, used in radio transmission and a special process in the steel industry, and tubes for the therapeutic X-ray machines in the medical industry.

The story is about them moving to a new large plant now under construction. "The expansion plans...include the rebuilding of linear accelerators, electron guns, and further development of the original product lines."

Doesn't say how big a tube has to be before they will take it on - but then this is a business-page article.

Quoted w/o permission from Santa Cruz Sentinel, 20 Sep 1955, page B-5 article by Dave Brockmann.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 17:33:00 1995  
From: "James T Hanlon" <jthanlo@jade.imdi.sandia.gov>  
Subject: Re[2]: The Classic Exchange  
Message-ID: <9508218116.AA811698467@jade.imdi.sandia.gov>

THIS time I'll be there. Listen for me on 7117, folks. If things are too crowded, I also have 7105.55, 7106.667, 7110, and 7125 to play on.

I may have that FT-243 ground up for 80 by then, too, who knows.

Call is KA1GTT and rigs will be 2-C/2-NT and just arrived, 2-CQ.

1965 vintage but at least it's something. <grin>

--Andy  
wallace@mc.com

P.S. When I tried to get on it a couple of years ago, I was using a DX-60 and an HQ-170. That was when the 170 cooked a resistor....still have to dig into that, dang I'm so unmotivated sometimes!

Andy,

I'll remember to look for you. I'll QSY up to 7117 etc on the hour starting two hours after the CX begins. Before then the skip probably won't be in.

Look for me too.

Jim, W8KGI

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 17:33:00 1995  
From: Schroeder.Wbst207V@xerox.com  
Subject: SWAP: HQ-170 for VLF receiver???  
Message-ID: <"21-Sep-95 13:01:09".\*.Schroeder.wbst207v@Xerox.com>

Hollowstaters,

I am looking for a VLF receiver, i.e. RAK, RBA, RBL or what have you?

I have available for swap an HQ-170 receiver (plus noise blanker) in good condition with copy of the manual. The receiver has a speaker added in place of the meter and a small toggle switch next to the speaker to switch between the internal and external speaker. No internal mods. All tubes test good, works fine.

Anyone interested in a swap?

Russ W2DYY

schroeder.wbst207v@xerox.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 06:39:00 1995  
From: Andy Wallace <wallace@mc.com>  
Subject: Re: The Classic Exchange  
Message-ID: <9509210545.AA03325@kali>

THIS time I'll be there. Listen for me on 7117, folks. If things are too crowded, I also have 7105.55, 7106.667, 7110, and 7125 to play on.

I may have that FT-243 ground up for 80 by then, too, who knows.

Call is KA1GTT and rigs will be 2-C/2-NT and just arrived, 2-CQ. 1965 vintage but at least it's something. <grin>

--Andy  
wallace@mc.com

P.S. When I tried to get on it a couple of years ago, I was using a DX-60 and an HQ-170. That was when the 170 cooked a resistor....still have to dig into that, dang I'm so unmotivated sometimes!

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 17:33:00 1995  
From: HAMRLUND@aol.com  
Subject: Re: The Classic Exchange  
Message-ID: <950921081338\_25288433@emout04.mail.aol.com>

In a message dated 95-09-21 07:26:24 EDT, wallace@mc.com (Andy Wallace) writes:

>That was when the 170  
>cooked a resistor....still have to dig into that, dang  
>I'm so unmotivated sometimes!

This sure sounds " Political ".....  
Andy, r u a politician?

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 06:39:00 1995  
From: "Robert M. Bratcher Jr." <bratcher@krypton.netropolis.net>  
Subject: This army guy's radio problem properly posted  
Message-ID: <199509202200.WAA03925@krypton.netropolis.net>

>  
>Date: Wed, 20 Sep 1995 13:52:48 -0400  
>From: Ka-Nang Yuen <knyuen@cc-mail.pica.army.mil>  
>To: boatanchors@theporch.com  
>Cc: Ka-Nang Yuen <knyuen@cc-mail.pica.army.mil>  
>Subject: AR88 Symptom  
>Message-ID: <060602e0@cc-mail.pica.army.mil>  
>



>This is a Mime message, which your current mail reader  
>may not understand. Parts of the message will appear as  
>text. To process the remainder, you will need to use a Mime  
>compatible mail reader. Contact your vendor for details.

>

>--IMA.Boundary.644226118

>Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII

>Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

>Content-Description: cc:Mail note part

>

>

> Dear friends of BA,

>--IMA.Boundary.644226118

>Content-Type: application/octet-stream; name="B1"

>Content-Transfer-Encoding: x-uencode

>Content-Description: Unknown data type

>

>begin 666 B1

Binary encoded text deleted.

Someone please help this guy? I am sending him a message asking that he post in plain text next time. I almost ignored his post but decided to unencode it to see what it was. Since he needs help I decided to post his problem for him. Wincode Unencoded text follows:

6CB

My RCA AR88 showed the following symptoms, will highly appreciate if anybody be kind enough to suggest how to fix them? Obviously similar problem did occur with other BA receivers. (My SX-28 has similar behavior at the low end of the BC band instead!)

Symptoms:

1. Happened ONLY on Band 2 (1.6 to 4.5 Mhz) and the symptom became much worse than years before.

The local oscillator of the 2 to 1.6 Mhz(low end portions) of this band will quickly become irrelevant/unstable at best, or stopped oscillating completely) after the receiver was switched on for a few minutes. It will resume oscillating normally only after the following attempts applied.

a. Quickly turn the frequencies dial to higher freq portion (e.g. 3.5 Mhz) to "re-trigger" the oscillation.

b. Remove the VR150 regulation tube and oscillation will restart instaneously. (so that the local oscillator B+ will jump up from 150 volts to nearly 270 volts.) Since I do not have other VR150 to replace the original one, can the

VR150 be the cause ? (even the output is always remaining around 150V ?)

c. Short the B+ supply to ground momentarily so as to re-trigger the oscillations. (a shock treatment ?)

d. Connect a variable capacitor --- 150 pF/maximum range --  
- in parallel with the compensating capacitor between the local oscillator tube/6J5 cathode and the center tap of the oscillator coil. (so as to resonate the coil at 1.6 Mhz --  
- the low end of the band. But very soon the variable capacitor needed to readjust again to re-trigger the oscillation. Unfortunately the high end --- 3.0 Mhz and up --- will then out of resonance and stopped oscillation at once.)

e. Did suspect the aging components of the local oscillator circuits were the cause. Except for replacing the original oscillator coil, had substituted all the local oscillator capacitors, the tube/6J5 with new ones (not the RCA originals of course but did confirmed working properly with other less critical circuits), cleaned the band switches, and checked proper variable capacitor groundings, etc. but the problem still remained.

f. When the problem surfaced the B+ supply dropped from 270 to 260 volts but resumed to normal 270 volts only if oscillation succeeded to resume by those "retrigger" effort mentioned above. (Nevertheless, other bands --- e.g. at 28 Mhz --- the local oscillator never failed to stop oscillating, the B+ voltages were therefore always maintained around the normal 270 Volts.) Suspected when oscillation stopped, excess B+ current draws overloaded the power supply down to 260 volts.

Please reply to this army fellow as I DO NOT own this receiver.

Robert M. Bratcher Jr.  
E-mail to:  
bratcher@netropolis.net  
Beam me up Scotty!

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 17:33:00 1995  
From: ross@hypertools.com (David Ross)  
Subject: TRADE: Heathkit Most Accurate Clock (unbuilt)  
Message-ID: <199509211655.JAA01250@desiree.teleport.com>

Gang -

I have available for trade a Heathkit Most Accurate Clock kit in an unopened box. This is the GC-1000, the older version with 5 & 10 & 15 MCs coverage, and includes the RS-232 output option, also a kit in an unopened box.

Am looking for older, mechanical cryptographic gear, especially mechanical teletype crypto gear, and would especially like to find a complete KL-7 or one of it's derivatives.

Thanks much - I hope this posting wasn't too far off topic for the group. While the Heathkit clock cannot be considered a Boatanchor, a great deal of the crypto gear I'm looking for \*did\* find it's way to the ocean floor...

73

Dave Ross      KA6EPI      ross@hypertools.com  
360/465-2117      southwest Washington state

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 17:33:00 1995  
From: Nick England <nick@cs.unc.edu>  
Subject: Wanted - misc items  
Message-ID: <199509211511.LAA22935@altair.cs.unc.edu>

I'm looking for the following - working or not, parts rigs OK too.

Heath XC-6      6 meter converter for the Mohawk rcvr  
Heath CO-1      code practice oscillator  
Heath AR-1      receiver  
Heath HW-18-3 160m xcvr

Knight R-55A receiver - must be "A" version  
Knight T-175 10m/6m linear (blue case)

Eico 711 "Space Ranger" receiver

Ameco AC-1      novice xmtr w/ plug-in coils  
Ameco CN-220 220 MHz converter

Hallicrafters SX-112 rcvr  
Hallicrafters test equipment

Johnson Mobile VFO  
Johnson Speech Amp

WRL Globe Scout 65B xmtr - must be "65B" version

WRL Globe UM-1       modulator  
WRL Globe Champ 300 or 300A

Will pay cash or trade interesting stuff.  
Many thanks,  
Nick England KD4CPL  
nick@cs.unc.edu  
(h) 919/929-4342

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 17:33:00 1995  
From: JACK HIRSCHBERG <HIRSCHJ@VAX2.CONCORDIA.CA>  
Subject: Wanted: Signal Sideband Adapter or Sideband Slicer  
Message-ID: <01HVJ8JFMCEQHTUJ05@VAX2.CONCORDIA.CA>

These items were used on the 50's and 60's to permit HF units improved SSB reception over simply using the BFO. They plugged into the IF out on sets specially designed to take the adapters. I would be interested in any such unit, but would really start to drool if someone could sell me the TMC Model GSB with manual, which matched with the TMC Model GPR-90 general communications receiver. Please e-mail responses to Jack at: HIRSCHJ@vax2.concordia.ca.

Thanks,  
--Jack

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 17:33:00 1995  
From: pbock@melpar.esys.com (Paul H. Bock)  
Subject: Re: WD-40  
Message-ID: <9509211633.AA27799@syseng1.se.melpar.esys.com>

> >Do you still recommend WD-40? Last I heard, it absorbed so much  
> >water from the air that it could cause parts to rust.  
>  
> My experiences have still been good with WD-40. I had not heard that it  
> absorbs water and I have not experienced parts rusting as a result of using  
> it. Maybe I should deliberately spray some parts and set them aside as an  
> experiment to see what happens to them.

As I understand it, WD-40 was developed (possibly for NASA) as a \*water displacement\* lubricant; in fact, I read that the "WD" in the name actually stands for "Water Displacement" and the "40" was the fortieth formulation that the inventor tried, and the one which worked the best. Hence the name WD-40.

Can't prove it, though.....

73,

Paul, K4MSG

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 17:33:00 1995  
From: Bill Standerfer <bills@hpislwes.lvld.hp.com>  
Subject: Re: WD-40  
Message-ID: <199509211906.AA245540407@hp.com>

Paul, pbock@melpar.esys.com wrote:

>> >Do you still recommend WD-40? Last I heard, it absorbed so much  
>> >water from the air that it could cause parts to rust.

>>

> As I understand it, WD-40 was developed (possibly for NASA)  
>as a \*water displacement\* lubricant; in fact, I read that the  
>"WD" in the name actually stands for "Water Displacement" and the  
>"40" was the fortieth formulation that the inventor tried, and  
>the one which worked the best. Hence the name WD-40.

I believe both of you are right. The folk lore in aviation for the name is as described above. Also, because of the water absorbtion, many mechanics strongly disapprove of WD-40 on anything on an airplane (or BA, or anything else you are trying to preserve). A product that has a good reputation for retarding corrosion, cleaning contacts, and as a penetrating lubricant is ACF-50 from a company in Texas. You can get it in a spray can like WD-40 and it goes on in the same way, but it doesn't have the water absorbtion properties that make WD-40 a bad choice as a preservative.

The down side of ACF-50 is that it is messy and stays on the part a long time. It will attract dust to some extent, so I only use it sparingly. It works very well as a lubricant for tight switches, door handles, throttle cables, etc, and will eventually evaporate after a long time.

A problem airplanes and boatanchors often suffer from is filiform corrosion. That's the white powdery stuff you see on an aluminum part that has some pitting or other blemish. If you see an area of bubbled paint on a cabinet, it probably has filiform corrosion underneath that will spread and continue to destroy the part if not repaired. ACF-50 is supposed to displace the moisture in that area and seal it from further attack. You have to repeat the process from time to time, depending on the environment the part is in (once a year or so for the average light airplane). Unfortunately, the only way to get rid of the filiform corrosion is to grind down the metal until you are below the area that was corroded, then properly prepare and protect it with appropriate primers and paint. If you just paint over the corrosion, it will be back eventually. The paint shop recommended that for our airplane when we repainted

it a couple of years ago for a few spots. Otherwise they said the paint job would be ruined in a few years from the corrosion underneath.

Bill

Bill Standerfer	*	Hewlett-Packard Company
CFI-A, IA, ME	*	Measurement Systems Division
bills@lvld.hp.com	*	Loveland, CO 80539
Baron N222AB - KF0DJ - Pikes Peak 253	*	970-679-2378

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 17:33:00 1995  
From: mirage!pamars@uhura.neoucom.EDU (P.A.Marshall)  
Subject: What's a Bradleyohm?  
Message-ID: <9509211141.AA05505@mirage>

I just picked up a gizmo the likes of which I have not seen before. It's a Bradleyohm "perfect resistor" made by Allen Bradley. It's body is ceramic, about 7/8" wide by 1 7/8" long and 1" high, there are metal covers on the top and bottom with a 1/4" shaft sticking out of the top. By turning the shaft through multiable turns the resistance goes from under 14K to over 20Meg, thats were my VOM stops and I haven't felt the need to get out the megger. So I know what it is, the real question is, What was it used for? A tuneable grid leak?

Al Marshall "Real Radios Glow in the Dark" almarshall@acm.org

As nightfall does not come at once, neither does oppression. In both instances, there is a twilight when everything remains seemingly unchanged. And it is in such twilight that we all must be most aware of change in the air--however slight--lest we become unwitting victims of the darkness.  
Justice William O. Douglas

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Sep 21 17:33:00 1995  
From: dlkerl@elvis.b11.ingr.com (Dan Kerl)  
Subject: WTB: S-meter for Hallicrafters S-20R, Q-multiplier  
Message-ID: <199509211751.AA12844@elvis.b11.ingr.com>

I'm looking for the accessory plug-in S-meter that Hallicrafters sold for the S-20R receiver. I'd also like to find a Q-multiplier for it. I don't know if Hallicrafters made one for this receiver, so some other maker (Heath, etc. - as long as it has tubes - suggestions?) is probably the way I'll have to go.

Thanks,  
Dan Kerl  
dlkerl@ingr.com